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Gray D. Lueck			WEINSTEIN, STEVEN L			
BINGHAM MCCUTCHEN, LLP Three Embarcadero Center, Suite 1800			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER		
San Francisco,, CA 94111-4067			1761			
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary  Examiner  Steven L. Weinstein  1761  The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address Period for Reply  A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM  THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.  Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.  If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.  If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.  Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).  Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).			Application	No	Applicant(s)	ţ			
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Art Unit: 1761

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The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claim 1-5, 7-10, 14-21, 24-26, 28 and 29 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kramer et al ('597) in view of Ikeuchi et al ('341), Durso ('447), Pettibout (FRE '682), Jaeger (Ep '328), Lewis ('980) and Sell et al ('681) for the reasons fully and clearly detailed in the Office action Mailed 6/23/03.

Claim 1 now additionally recites that the first and second members are closed and then opened and that they are heated. The art taken as a whole for the reasons detailed in the last Office action would fairly teach to modify the method of Kramer and provide two members with concavities which concavities would have to be closed (to mold the product) and opened (to remove the molded product) and heat both members. Similarly for claim 14. In regard to claim 21, the art taken as a whole also clearly discloses it would have been obvious to sandwich a packaged meat product in a compartment (i.e. mold) having an impression device since it was known to sandwich meat and impress meat with a pattern, with or without a packaging material, as discussed in the Office action mailed 6/23/03.

Claim11-13 and 27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the references as applied to claim1 plus above, and further in view of **U**otani (Jp '257) for the reasons given in the last Office action mailed 6/23/03.

Art Unit: 1761

All of applicant's remarks filed 10/24/03 have been fully and carefully considered but are not found to be convincing. Applicant argues each reference separately as if they were applied alone, in a vacuum. The references are applied under 35 USC 103, obviousness, and patentability or obviousness is predicated on what the art taken as a whole teaches. Thus, on page 12 of the amendment, applicant argues what, in his opinion, Kramer fails to teach. For example, it is urged that Kramer fails to teach two members both having concavities. This, of course, was discussed in the last Office action. Kramer et al is not relied on to show two members with concavities nor does the reference have to for the reaction to be proper. As discussed previously, the art taken as a whole teaches two member molds, both having concavities, are notoriously conventional. Whether both members have concavities is clearly an obvious matter of choice and/ or design since the shape of the member will be imparted to the product molded. Thus, as evidenced by the art taken as a whole, if one is attempting to impart to a product symmetry; or a real life simulation or any shape wherein there are no flat sides, then the art taken as a whole clearly teaches that both members should have a concavity. Notethat even in Kramer et al, both members have a plurality of protrusions to impart to the product a net like appearance.

In a similar vein, it is urged that Kramer fails to close the members. As discussed previously, Kramer does indeed close the mold with a molding element (24). However, even if Kramer et al did not teach closing the two members, as also discussed previously, the art taken as a whole clearly teaches two part molds are notoriously old and to open or close them is necessary for molding. Page 12 of the amendment

Art Unit: 1761

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continues with further urgings which urgings are based on only one mold member, art which urgings are directed to the taken as a whole which teaches it would have been obvious to employ two concavity molds.

Applicant then urges it would not have been obvious to combine the secondary art with the primary reference primarily because of deficiencies perceived by applicant in the secondary art which deficiencies are already taught in the primary reference. As a general rule, if the primary reference already has a teaching in question and the secondary reference is not being relied on for this teaching but for some other teaching, then it is not necessary for the secondary reference to show the teaching for the rejection to be proper. For example, it is not necessary for the secondary art to show the specific pattern of protrusions since this is already taught by Kramer et al. The secondary art is relied on to teach various two piece mold members, that it was further known to provide a protrusion pattern on both members (e.g. Ikeuchi), that it was known to compress food between two mold members for shaping (e. g. Durso), Petitbout and Jaeger, etc. Note, in this regard, that contrary to what is urged, Jaeger does disclose a two-member concave wire mesh mold. Similarly, although Lewis does not have to teach protrusions since these are already taught by Kramer et al, Lewis does teach a mold with raised areas and recessed areas to import the shape he wants, i.e. a turkey.

On page 13 of the remarks, the first few lines, it is not clear what distinction is being made in regard to Ikeuchi. The art taken as a whole including Kramer et al, teach sandwiching food between two mold members and heating the food in the mold member to cook or set the shape one desires to impart to the food.

Art Unit: 1761

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time

policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE

Page 5

MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within

TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not

mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the

shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any

extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of

the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later

than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to Steven Weinstein whose telephone number is (571)

272-1410. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 7:00am to 3:30

pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, Milton Cano can be reached on (571) 272-1398. The fax phone number for

the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

S. Weinstein/af January 30, 2004

STÉVE WEÍNSTEIN PRIMARY EXAMINER 176/

Rensen 8A69

2/3/04